

IN THE CLAIMS

1-8 (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) A method for managing access to a digital work, the method for execution by a content providing node, the method comprising:

receiving via a network a first request from a content requesting node, the first request comprising a network address of the content requesting node and an identifier of the digital work;

transmitting via the network to an authorizing node the network address and a file identifier corresponding to the digital work;

receiving via the network a second request from the content requesting node, the second request comprising the file identifier; and

transmitting via the network to the content requesting node a second network address and the digital work, the second network address for use by the content requesting node in reporting access to the digital work.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9 further comprising:

locating a map file in accordance with the identifier of the digital work; and

providing the map file to the authorizing node, the map file comprising the file identifier.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the step of providing the map file is in response to a second request originating from the authorizing node.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9 further comprising maintaining the digital work and the map file for separate storage and access.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9 further comprising transmitting via the network to a reconciling node a report in accordance with at least one of the identifier of the digital work and the file identifier.

14. (Previously presented) The method for managing access to a digital work, the method for execution by a content providing node, the method comprising:

receiving via a network a first request from a content request node, the first request requesting a network address of the content requesting node and an identifier of the digital work;

locating a map file in accordance with the identifier of the digital work, the map file comprising a plurality of file identifiers;

transmitting via the network to an authorizing node the network address and the map file;

receiving via the network a series of second requests from the content requesting node, each second request comprising a respective file identifier; and

transmitting via the network to the content requesting node a second network address and a series of files corresponding to one copy of the digital work, each file of the series corresponding to a respective file identifier, the second network address for use by the content requesting node in reporting access to the digital work.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein at least one file identifier is provided to the authorizing node in an encrypted form.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein at least one file identifier is received from the content requesting node in an unencrypted form.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the plurality of file identifiers of the map file exceeds in number the series of file identifiers for transfer of the digital work.

18. (Previously presented) A method for managing access to a digital work, the method for execution by a first computer system, the method comprising:

receiving via a network a first request from a second computer system, the first request comprising a network address of the second computer system and an identifier of the digital work;

transmitting via the network to a third computer system the network address and a file identifier corresponding to the digital work;

receiving via the network a second request from the second computer system, the second request comprising the file identifier; and

transmitting via the network to the second computer system a second network address and the digital work, the second network address for use by the second computer system in reporting access to the digital work.

19. (Previously presented) A data store comprising:

a plurality of digital works, each digital work stored in a multiplicity of files, each file of the multiplicity having a respective component file name; and
a plurality of map files, each map file corresponding to a particular digital work, a particular map file comprising the multiplicity of component file names for the particular digital work.

20. (Previously presented) The data store of claim 19 wherein the map file is stored in an encrypted format.

21. (Previously presented) The data store of claim 19 wherein a file of the multiplicity comprises a header and a body, the header being stored in a relatively strong encrypted format, the body being stored in a relatively weak encrypted format.

22. (Previously presented) The data store of claim 19 further organized according to a directory listing wherein the respective multiplicity of files for each of the digital works is stored in an arbitrary order that is not apparent from the directory listing